Connecting via Winsock to Dialog

Logging in to Dialog

Trying 31060000009998...Open

DIALOG INFORMATION SERVICES

PLEASE LOGON:

ENTER PASSWORD:

Welcome to DIALOG

Dialog level 05.10.03D

Last logoff: 14mar06 12:22:28 Logon file405 22mar06 15:02:50 *** ANNOUNCEMENTS ***

NEW FILES RELEASED

***Regulatory Affairs Journals (File 183)

***Index Chemicus (File 302)

***Inspec (File 202)

**:

RELOADS COMPLETED

*** MEDLINE has been reloaded with the 2006 MeSH (Files 154 & 155)

3/22/06 m 09/373576

*** The 2005 reload of the CLAIMS files (Files 340, 341, 942)

is now available online.

RESUMED UPDATING

***EDGARPLUS(TM)-Williams Act Filings (File 773)

***EDGARPLUS(TM)-Prospectuses (File 774)

***EDGARPLUS(TM)-Registration Statements (File 775)

***EDGARPLUS(TM)-6K,8K, and 10C Filings (File 776)

***EDGARPLUS(TM)-10-K & 20F Filings (File 778)

***EDGARPLUS(TM)-10-Q Filings (File 779)

***EDGARPLUS(TM)-Proxy Statements (File 780)

Chemical Structure Searching now available in Prous Science Drug Data Report (F452), Prous Science Drugs of the Future (F453), IMS R&D Focus (F445/955), Pharmaprojects (F128/928), Beilstein Facts (F390), Derwent Chemistry Resource (F355) and Index Chemicus (File 302).

>>>For the latest news about Dialog products, services, content<<< >>>and events, please visit What's New from Dialog at <<< >>>http://www.dialog.com/whatsnew/. You can find news about<<< >>>a specific database by entering HELP NEWS <file number>.<< FTXTCOR is set ON as an alias for 15, 9, 810, 275, 476, 610, 275, 476, 624, 636, 621, 613, 813, 16, 160, 634, 148, 20
NFTXTCOR is set ON as an alias for 77, 35, 583, 65, 2, 233, 474, 475, 99, 348,349,347
* * *

SYSTEM: HOME

Cost is in DialUnits

Menu System II: D2 version 1.7.9 term=ASCII

*** DIALOG HOMEBASE(SM) Main Menu ***

Information:

- Announcements (new files, reloads, etc.)
- 2. Database, Rates, & Command Descriptions
- 3. Help in Choosing Databases for Your Topic

- 4. Customer Services (telephone assistance, training, seminars, etc.)
- 5. Product Descriptions

Connections:

- 6. DIALOG(R) Document Delivery
- 7. Data Star(R)
 - (c) 2003 Dialog, a Thomson business. All rights reserved.

/H = Help

/L = Logoff

/NOMENU = Command Mode

Enter an option number to view information or to connect to an online
 service. Enter a BEGIN command plus a file number to search a database
(e.g., B1 for ERIC).
? b 410

22mar06 15:02:50 User242899 Session D499.1

\$0.00 0.213 DialUnits FileHomeBase

- \$0.00 Estimated cost FileHomeBase
- \$0.00 Estimated cost this search
- \$0.00 Estimated total session cost 0.213 DialUnits

File 410:Dialog Comm.-of-Interest Newsl/Nov (c) 2005 Dialog

Set Items Description

--- ----

? set hi ;set hi

HILIGHT set on as ''

HILIGHT set on as ''

? b ftxtcor nftxtcor

>>> 77 does not exist

>>> 233 does not exist

>>>2 of the specified files are not available

22mar06 15:03:16 User242899 Session D499.2

\$0.00 0.100 DialUnits File410

- \$0.00 Estimated cost File410
- \$0.11 TELNET
- \$0.11 Estimated cost this search
- \$0.11 Estimated total session cost 0.313 DialUnits

SYSTEM:OS - DIALOG OneSearch

File 15:ABI/Inform(R) 1971-2006/Mar 22

(c) 2006 ProQuest Info&Learning

File 9:Business & Industry(R) Jul/1994-2006/Mar 20

(c) 2006 The Gale Group

File 810: Business Wire 1986-1999/Feb 28

(c) 1999 Business Wire

File 275:Gale Group Computer DB(TM) 1983-2006/Mar 21

(c) 2006 The Gale Group

File 476: Financial Times Fulltext 1982-2006/Mar 23

(c) 2006 Financial Times Ltd

File 610:Business Wire 1999-2006/Mar 22

(c) 2006 Business Wire.

*File 610: File 610 now contains data from 3/99 forward.

Archive data (1986-2/99) is available in File 810.

File 624:McGraw-Hill Publications 1985-2006/Mar 22

(c) 2006 McGraw-Hill Co. Inc

*File 624: Homeland Security & Defense and 9 Platt energy journals added Please see HELP NEWS624 for more

File 636:Gale Group Newsletter DB(TM) 1987-2006/Mar 21

(c) 2006 The Gale Group

File 621:Gale Group New Prod.Annou.(R) 1985-2006/Mar 21

(c) 2006 The Gale Group

```
File 613:PR Newswire 1999-2006/Mar 22
         (c) 2006 PR Newswire Association Inc
*File 613: File 613 now contains data from 5/99 forward.
Archive data (1987-4/99) is available in File 813.
  File 813:PR Newswire 1987-1999/Apr 30
         (c) 1999 PR Newswire Association Inc
  File 16:Gale Group PROMT(R) 1990-2006/Mar 22
         (c) 2006 The Gale Group
  File 160:Gale Group PROMT(R) 1972-1989
         (c) 1999 The Gale Group
  File 634:San Jose Mercury Jun 1985-2006/Mar 21
         (c) 2006 San Jose Mercury News
  File 148:Gale Group Trade & Industry DB 1976-2006/Mar 21
         (c) 2006 The Gale Group
        20:Dialog Global Reporter 1997-2006/Mar 22
         (c) 2006 Dialog
       35:Dissertation Abs Online 1861-2006/Feb
         (c) 2006 ProQuest Info&Learning
  File 583: Gale Group Globalbase (TM) 1986-2002/Dec 13
         (c) 2002 The Gale Group
*File 583: This file is no longer updating as of 12-13-2002.
  File 65:Inside Conferences 1993-2006/Mar 22
         (c) 2006 BLDSC all rts. reserv.
  File
         2:INSPEC 1898-2006/Mar W2
         (c) 2006 Institution of Electrical Engineers
  File 474:New York Times Abs 1969-2006/Mar 21
         (c) 2006 The New York Times
  File 475: Wall Street Journal Abs 1973-2006/Mar 21
         (c) 2006 The New York Times
       99:Wilson Appl. Sci & Tech Abs 1983-2006/Feb
         (c) 2006 The HW Wilson Co.
  File 348:EUROPEAN PATENTS 1978-2006/ 200611
         (c) 2006 European Patent Office
*File 348: For important information about IPCR/8 and forthcoming
changes to the IC= index, see HELP NEWSIPCR.
  File 349:PCT FULLTEXT 1979-2006/UB=20060316,UT=20060309
         (c) 2006 WIPO/Univentio
*File 349: For important information about IPCR/8 and forthcoming
changes to the IC= index, see HELP NEWSIPCR.
  File 347: JAPIO Nov 1976-2005/Nov (Updated 060302)
         (c) 2006 JPO & JAPIO
      Set Items Description
? garden? and (enter? or input? or select?) (3n) (zone or zip(w)code) (5n) (recommend?
or suggest?)(3n)(flower? or annuals or perennial? or shrub? or tree or trees) not
py>1998
>>>Unrecognizable Command
? s garden? and (enter? or input? or select?)(3ns)(zone or
zip(w)code)(5n)(recommend? or suggest?)(3n)(flower? or annuals or perennial? or
shrub? or tree or trees) not py>1998
>>>Invalid syntax
? s garden? and (enter? or input? or select?) (3n) (zone or
zip(w)code)(5n)(recommend? or suggest?)(3n)(plant? ? or flower? or annuals or
perennial? or shrub? or tree or trees) not py>1998
Processing
Processing
Processed 10 of 26 files ...
Processing
>>>File 20 processing for ENTER? stopped at ENTERTAINMENTSTARVED
Processing
Processing
Processing
Processing
```

```
Processed 20 of 26 files ...
Processing
>>>File 349 processing for ENTER? stopped at ENTEROH
>>>File 349 processing for INPUT? stopped at INPUTWAVELOL
>>>File 349 processing for SELECT? stopped at SELECTIGELY
Processing
Completed processing all files
         1258369 GARDEN?
        15258086 ENTER?
         2740137 INPUT?
         9353834 SELECT?
         1564077 ZONE
         163591 ZIP
         2886528 CODE
           48073 ZIP(W)CODE
         3294044 RECOMMEND?
         5688467 SUGGEST?
         5798668 PLANT? ?
          524605 FLOWER?
            7956 ANNUALS
          110014 PERENNIAL?
          53749 SHRUB?
          718359 TREE
          495439 TREES
                  ((ENTER? OR INPUT?) OR SELECT?)(3N)(ZONE OR
                  ZIP(W)CODE)(5N)(RECOMMEND? OR SUGGEST?)...
        75232124 PY>1998
               2 GARDEN? AND (ENTER? OR INPUT? OR SELECT?) (3N) (ZONE OR
      S1
                  ZIP(W)CODE)(5N)(RECOMMEND? OR SUGGEST?)(3N)(PLANT? ? OR
                  FLOWER? OR ANNUALS OR PERENNIAL? OR SHRUB? OR TREE OR
                  TREES) NOT PY>1998
? t s1/7,k/1-2
 1/7, K/1
            (Item 1 from file: 275)
DIALOG(R) File 275: Gale Group Computer DB (TM)
(c) 2006 The Gale Group. All rts. reserv.
            SUPPLIER NUMBER: 16693195
                                         (THIS IS THE FULL TEXT)
01760862
How does your ***garden*** grow? Landscaping with your PC. (Multicom
  Publishing Better Homes and Gardens Complete Guide to
  Gardening; Books that Work 3D Landscape; Green Thumb Software
  LandDesigner MultiMedia for Gardens; The Larch TreeSelect) (After
  Hours) (Software Review) (Evaluation)
Trivette, Donald B.
PC Magazine, v14, n7, p361(2)
April 11, 1995
TEXT:
     There's no better way to spend a winter evening than pouring over
  ***garden*** catalogs with glorious photographs and the promise of spring.
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  ***qarden***
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fence. LandDesigner has elements of a ***garden*** guide and a landscape
designer. And TreeSelect can recommend the right tree for your ***garden***
     Better Homes and Gardens Complete Guide to Gardening
    Multicom Publishing,
```

The green thumbs at Better Homes and Gardens magazine teamed up

800-850-7272. **** \$49.95 with the programmers at Multicom to produce a beautiful example of how good a multimedia CD-ROM can be. This isn't a book ported to CD-ROM, but a new product designed from the ground up to take advantage of sound, still photography, and animated video.

Better Homes and Gardens Complete Guide to Gardening covers fundamental concepts like tilling the soil, planting, composting, pest control, and plant arrangement. Advanced techniques like fertilizing, transplanting, and winterizing benefit from full-motion animation and narrated text.

But the Complete Guide to Gardening is more than just a how-to of techniques. Perhaps the most impressive part of the CD-ROM is the ***Garden*** Guide, a database of 1,500 plants. Want to set out a bed of small, white annuals but can't decide what kind? Click a few buttons and the Garden Guide quickly serves up a list of plants that fit the bill. Click on one of these plant names and you get a detailed description of the plant and its environmental requirements, as well as several beautiful photos of the plant in bloom.

An almanac and calendar of events reminds you when to trim roses and when to hit the ***garden*** -show circuit. You can add notes and events to document your own ***garden*** activities.

An attractive index and an intuitive user interface tie all the material together and make it a joy to use. A classical soundtrack that plays unobtrusively in the background makes this a treat for the ear as well as the eye.

3D Landscape Books That Work, 800-242-4546. *** \$50.00

Have you ever planted a garden only to find the flowers languishing in the shade of a fast-growing shrub?

3D Landscape has a solution to prevent this and other mistakes. The program has a How-To Guide that explains landscaping principles and techniques, as well as how to select plants, rent tools, and buy materials. It also offers a design module with landscape symbols to incorporate into your landscape layout.

The book-style How-To Guide is the place to learn about a project before designing it. Interactive worksheets take you through a process like choosing a lawn grass: You set factors like speed of growth, temperature tolerance, mowing frequency, and resistance to wear; the software responds with suggested grasses.

Once you've learned the principles and techniques, you can put them to use in the design module. You drag-and- drop symbols onto your layout to create a scale drawing of your house and yard, with shrubs, trees, walks, patios, decks, sprinklers, and gazebos. As part of the design process, you can investigate the Growth Over Time feature that lets you see how your plantings will mature. The Plant and Materials Estimator lets you calculate the exact cost of the project and can serve as a shopping list. With everything placed on the plan, just click a button and watch as the program constructs a detailed view of your yard from a variety of perspectives and angles.

An otherwise excellent product, 3D Landscape is marred by its blatant infomercials touting specific brands.

LandDesigner Multi-Media for Gardens Green Thumb Software, 800-336-3127.

*** \$49.95

LandDesigner Multi-Media for **Gardens** and 3D Landscape offer many of the same design and layout tools and work similarly. The big difference is that LandDesigner can display your creations only as flat drawings rather than in 3-D. But what LandDesigner lacks on the display side it makes up for on the plant selection side.

Designing a layout is fairly straightforward: Establish the lot size and outline the existing buildings on a site plan, then use a template library to click and place generic trees, shrubs, flowers, or garden

structures.

To get more specific, turn to the extensive plant database from the catalog of a nationally known nursery. Say you want white flowers around the front door: Pick and place the icon for small white plants, then ask the database for specific varieties. Detailed growing information and photos are available for more than 1,000 plants. The database is fully searchable by name and plant characteristics.

As with 3D Landscape, you can "grow" your design for several years to see changes. But there is no shadow-casting feature, nor is there a way to account for slopes and changes in elevation.

TreeSelect

The Larch Inc., 800-315-7645.

** \$29.95

TreeSelect is an unpretentious little program that does what it does well--it just doesn't do quite enough.

As its name suggests, TreeSelect recommends trees based on user-selected criteria such as tree size, decorativeness, your temperature ***zone***, and the soil conditions. You choose the categories, then the program scans its 800-tree database to find the trees that best match your requirements.

TreeSelect's biggest drawback is that when it makes a recommendation, it does so in words. For all its text, it begs a really important question: What does a particular tree, such as a Russian olive, look like? The information is sound and useful, but a pictorial database is desperately needed. If you are not an arborist or park ranger, you'll want a pictorial reference book to accompany TreeSelect.

Problem Solver

Before choosing any plants, consider your climate, soil quality, and the length of the growing season. Also consider how much money you can invest and how much time you have for upkeep.

COPYRIGHT 1995 Ziff-Davis Publishing Company

How does your ***garden*** grow? Landscaping with your PC. (Multicom Publishing Better Homes and Gardens Complete Guide to Gardening; Books that Work 3D Landscape; Green Thumb Software LandDesigner MultiMedia for Gardens; The Larch TreeSelect) (After Hours) (Software Review) (Evaluation)

...ABSTRACT: computer users with landscape design are reviewed. Multicom Publishing's \$49.95 Better Homes and ***Gardens*** Complete Guide to Gardening is a beautifully designed multimedia CD-ROM that takes advantage of sound, video and digitized...

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TRADE NAMES: Better Homes and Gardens Complete Guide to

1/7,K/2 (Item 1 from file: 148)
DIALOG(R)File 148:Gale Group Trade & Industry DB

. . .

(c) 2006 The Gale Group. All rts. reserv.

07794905 SUPPLIER NUMBER: 16693195 (THIS IS THE FULL TEXT)
How does your ***garden*** grow? Landscaping with your PC. (Multicom Publishing Better Homes and Gardens Complete Guide to Gardening; Books that Work 3D Landscape; Green Thumb Software LandDesigner MultiMedia for Gardens; The Larch TreeSelect) (After Hours) (Software Review) (Evaluation)
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3D...

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...LandDesigner Multi-Media for ***Gardens*** (Entertainment/hobby software

PLEASE ENTER A COMMAND OR BE LOGGED OFF IN 5 MINUTES

Garg, Yogesh

From:

Weinhardt, Robert

Sent:

Wednesday, March 22, 2006 2:41 PM

To:

Garg, Yogesh

Here's the query:

s garden? and (enter? or input? or select?)(3n)(zone or zip(w)code)(5n)(recommend? or suggest?)(3n)(flower? or annuals or perennial? or shrub? or tree or trees) not py>1998

The synonym that I missed is "plant or plants". Rerun the query with this.



R	est	Advanced Topics Publications	My Research	Interface language:
		es selected: Multiple databases	0 marked items	English
		•		
ке	su	Its – powered by ProQuest® Smart Search		
	Sug Soil	ggested Topics About < Previous Next >	Browse Suggested Public About	ations < Previous Next >
		s AND Trees	Soil Science Society of Ame	erica Journal; Madison
		s AND Forests	Canadian Journal of Forest	Research; Ottawa
	Soil	s AND Nitrogen		
8 do	ocur	ments found for: (tree select soil zone) AND PDN(<8/	/1/1999) » Refine Search	Set Up Alert⊠
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	3.	A real-time expert system for citrus microirrigat by Xin, Jiannong, Ph.D., University of Florida, 199	ion management 95, 204 pages: AAT 960746	5
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	4.	Sustainability indicators for villages in forested by Dufflied, Colin Edward, M.N.R.M., The Universit	mountain watersheds: Up	pper Beas River, Himachal F
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	6.	Rocks can add drama to the garden; [2 STAR Ed BRENDA BEUST SMITH. Houston Chronicle (pre	lition] -1997 Fulltext). Houston, T	ex.: Oct 24, 1992. p. 2
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Full text	[™] <u>Abstract</u>
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<u> </u>	Wife's gardening helps to make house a home Chris Cudworth. Daily Herald. Arlington Heights,		
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3 .	Good morning, Algonquin, Huntley and Lake in Grove!; [McHenry Edition] Daily Herald. Arlington Heights, Ill.: Jul 1, 1999.		g, Cary and Fox River
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<u> </u>	CREEPY-CRAWLIES AND ITCHERS ARE OUT Jerry Williams; Send your gardening questions to 85333, Richmond, Va., 23293, or call (804) 649-6 of wide interest will be answered in her column I 1999. p. G.14	o Jerry Williams, Richmond T 6514. Personal replies are no	ot possible, but questions
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5.	SoCal Gardening; Spotted: OwlsTips for A Living With Wildlife ANDREA KITAY. Los Angele	Attracting Local Types; [Hoes Times. Los Angeles, Cali	ome Edition] f.: May 20, 1999. p. 3
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	13.	GARDENING CONCERNS FOR COMING SEASON; [THIRD Edition of the Morning Call) Morning Call Mark Mark Mark Mark Mark Mark Mark Mark	
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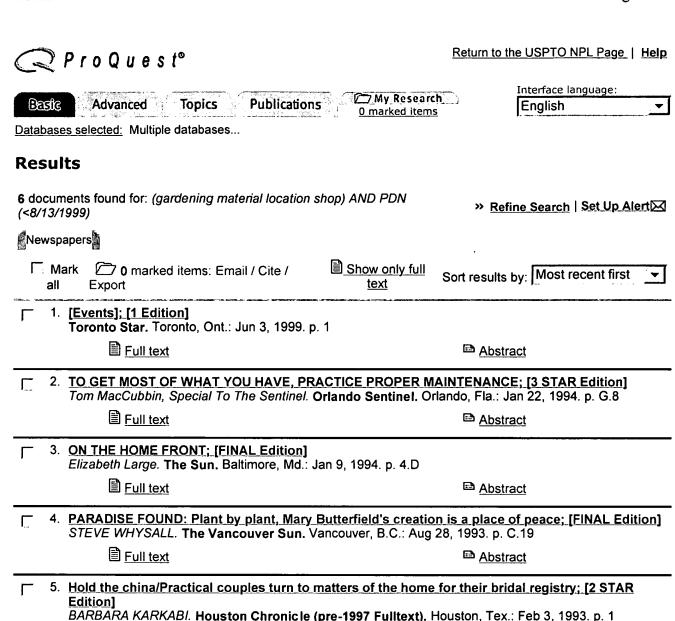
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6. HOUSE AND HEART: Christmas books on everything from dressing a home with faux finishes to the nitty gritty of vegetable gardening: Beautiful books for the designers and decorators on

DONNA ANDERSON, STEVE WHYSALL. The Vancouver Sun. Vancouver, B.C.: Dec 14, 1991. p. G.1

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2. Something to chew in; [1gz Edition] Sunday Times. London (UK): Jun 13, 1999. p. 2	11			
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3. <u>Digging around on the Web for gardening tips; [Final Edition]</u> DAVID ZGODZINSKI. The Gazette. Montreal, Que.: May 22, 1999. p. K.2				
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Г	9.	A Web in the garden Searching the Internet for plant information outside; [ONE STAR Edition] LAURENCE SOMBKE SPECIAL TO THE TIMES UNION. Times Un H.1	, ,		
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	15.	HOLIDAY SHOPPERS BEAT THE BUSTLE BY BOOTING UP PC SAFETY CONCERNS, NOVELTY FACTOR WEAR OFF; [FINAL Edition of the Mangalindan Bloomberg News. Rocky Mountain News. Details of the Mangalindan Bloomberg News. Rocky Mountain News. Details of the Mangalindan Bloomberg News.	dition]		
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Γ.,	16.	On-Line Holiday Sales May Top \$1 Billion; [FINAL HOME EDITIO Tulsa World. Tulsa, Okla.: Nov 29, 1997. p. E.2	N]		
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Γ	17.	Online retailers expected to get boost from holiday; [HOME FINA Dallas Morning News. Dallas, Tex.: Nov 24, 1997. p. 2.D	AL Edition]		
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F	19.	SOME USEFUL TOOLS FOR GARDENERS; [City Edition] Jerry Williams Times-Dispatch Garden Columnist. Richmond Times 16, 1997. p. G.9	- Dispatch. Richmond, Va.: Feb		

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20. TIPS FROM THOMSON: Web stie offers fertile ground for new crop of gifts; [01 Edition] Bob Thomson. Boston Herald. Boston, Mass.: Dec 1, 1996. p. 057			
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SUSAN MCCLURE. Chicago Sun - Times. Chicago, Ill.: Jul 5, 1998. pg. 6.NC

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Garden Escape. Garden Escape at www.garden.com is like a garden shop and newsy magazine rolled into one. It was named one of the "Top 100 Web Sites" by PC Magazine Online. "If it has anything at all to do with dirt, you'll find it here," the editors said. "This massive and encyclopedic gardening site is part store, part magazine, part gardening club, and each aspect is successful and well designed."

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Copyright Chicago Sun Times Jul 5, 1998

There is more to creating a great garden than digging and watering. You need to know about the plants you are growing, the pests that plague them and the products that nurture them.

One of the best places to harvest an endless bounty of information is the Internet.

Start by frequenting some of the larger sites that specialize in gardening. Most also sell products and services.

Garden Escape. Garden Escape at www.garden.com is like a garden shop and newsy magazine rolled into one. It was named one of the "Top 100 Web Sites" by PC Magazine Online. "If it has anything at all to do with dirt, you'll find it here," the editors said. "This massive and encyclopedic gardening site is part store, part magazine, part gardening club, and each aspect is successful and well designed."

Garden Escape features timely news articles every week.

Old features are filed in the library. You can tour, in virtual reality, award-winning gardens.

For Midwest-specific information look for the monthly column by Karen Weir-Jimerson.

If you don't feel like running out to your local garden center, you'll find Garden Escape's nursery has the largest selection of plants on the Internet.

Plants, delivered to your door, are guaranteed for full replacement, refund or 110 percent credit toward your next purchase.

Use live chat rooms to "talk" with visiting garden authorities or other gardeners or send your questions to a plant doctor at Garden.comdoctor.

Virtual gardening. <u>①Time Inc</u>'s Virtual Garden at www.vg.com skimps on information for the Midwest, which isn't even included in the Regional Gardener section.

Still, it's a great place to find articles from West Coast Sunset and Southern Living magazines. You also can look for tips from other magazines such as This Old House and Allen Lacy's Homeground.

Probably the most useful features are in the Toolshed, where you can look up almost any plant.

Better gardens. Better Homes and Gardens, located in Des Moines, Iowa, has its own Web site at www.bhglive.com.

You also can find garden plans, developed by expert professional teams, that you may be able to use in your own garden.

There are new articles daily during the week, plus special features.

GardenNet. If you want to make connections with specialty nurseries, swap seeds with other gardeners or shop for books, stop at gardennet.com.

Garden Links connects you to nursery catalogs. Listed by subject, the links offer easy access to home pages and opportunities to request their catalogs.

Other sites. You also can visit specialized sites of Cooperative Extension Services:

Ohio State University offers an extensive file of fact sheets and databases at hortwww-2.ag.ohio-state.edu/.

United States Department of Agriculture lets you review its state-of-the-art research and connect to other publicly funded horticulture sites, including the Illinois Cooperative Extension Service, Michigan State University Cooperative Extension Service and more at www.usda.gov.

Susan McClure is a Chicago area free-lance writer.

[Illustration]

Looking for an unusual plant like this fancy-leafed geranium? Chances are good you can find it on the Internet. See also related story page 6, nc.

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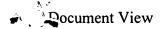
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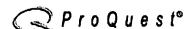
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TIPS FROM THOMSON: Web stie offers fertile ground for new crop of gifts; [01 Edition]

Bob Thomson. Boston Herald. Boston, Mass.: Dec 1, 1996. pg. 057

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Bob Thomson

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Abstract (Document Summary)

A: Your green-thumb friends are in luck. There are always new gardening products and now even more ways to get these products. One new way to shop for your favorite garden enthusiast is only a few keystrokes away when you visit one of the on-line gardening Web sites. I stumbled onto GardenNet on the Internet's World Wide Web via <u>OAmerica Online</u>. GardenNet includes a guide to garden catalogs, an on-line magazine called The Ardent Gardener and much more to give you some great holiday gift-giving ideas.

Full Text (309 words)

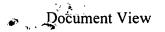
Copyright Boston Herald Library Dec 1, 1996

Q: Last year, you gave some great gift ideas for the gardeners on my Christmas list. This year, I want to try to get these gardeners something unique. Any thoughts?

A: Your green-thumb friends are in luck. There are always new gardening products and now even more ways to get these products. One new way to shop for your favorite garden enthusiast is only a few keystrokes away when you visit one of the on-line gardening Web sites. I stumbled onto GardenNet on the Internet's World Wide Web via Output Description

Output Description Gardener and much more to give you some great holiday gift-giving ideas.

For those of you who aren't ready to shop in cyberspace, here are some suggestions available at your local garden retailer, by mail and by phone. Santa knows which garden bugs have been bad or good this year - and so do the people at Gardens Alive! Gardeners have grown to know and love the Gardens Alive! catalog with its environmentally responsible organic garden, home and pet products. The catalog features items such as Green Lacewings and Sta-Home Lady Beetles, the acclaimed corn-based A-maizing Lawn (an effective alternative to traditional herbicides and fertilizers) and Tomatoes Alive! (an abundant harvest of luscious tomatoes). For a free



catalog, write Gardens Alive!, 5100 Schenley Place, Dept. 4457, Lawrenceburg, IN 47025, or call (812) 537-8650.

Compost really happens when you give a little gift guaranteed to tickle your garden-loving friends. It's a gift of, well, rhino doo. In a major recycling effort, Zoo Doo helps zoos converting steaming piles of rhino dung (among others) into an odorless composted fertilizer. Available nationwide, their poo-pourri of gift-packaged products now includes Dung Buddy garden sculptures and Doo Darling plant stakes.

For the complete scoop, call (800) I LUV DOO (800-458-8366).

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A Web in the garden Searching the Internet for plant information is almost as satisfying as being outside; [ONE STAR Edition]

LAURENCE SOMBKE SPECIAL TO THE TIMES UNION. Times Union. Albany, N.Y.: Jan 24, 1999. pg. H.1

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LAURENCE SOMBKE SPECIAL TO THE TIMES UNION

Section:

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Newspaper ProQuest document ID: 38574242

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Abstract (Document Summary)

And these are legitimate gardening sites from portals like http://garden.com to seed companies such as http://burpee.com and over to http://www.geocities.com/RainForest/Canopy/1104 i.e. Welcome to Our Garden, a photo-rich tour of someone's back yard led by a big boxer dog named Wynnie who lives "with Mom & Murf in a house full of cats in Cleveland" (sweet site, long download).

And watch out for the much-too-wide Internet search under "garden" that turns up every botanical garden and public garden with a Web site (which of course can be very good sources of information, as well), plus Madison Square Garden and any product, place or person that has anything to do with gardens.

Bookmark sites The very first site you should bookmark is http://www.garden.com because it is the best, allpurpose garden Web site where you can read articles, shop for garden plants and tools, keep abreast of garden events, talk with other gardeners, design your own garden and link to other sites.

Full Text (1491 words)

Copyright Capitol Newspapers Jan 24, 1999

Gardening on the World Wide Web is a wonderful way to while away several hours during the snowbound winter months. Your computer might not be as tactile or as cuddly as a big stack of colorful well-known garden and seed catalogs, but it certainly is every bit as fun and even more informational.

In fact, the biggest problem with garden Web surfing is there is just too much information out there. I asked <u>••• Yahoo!</u> to search gardening for me and it came up with over 718 sites in 27 categories. The same search on Lycos/HotBot turned up 128,770 results and Excite produced 69,822 matches.

And these are legitimate gardening sites from portals like http://garden.com to seed companies such as

http://burpee.com and over to http://www.geocities.com/RainForest/Canopy/1104 i.e. Welcome to Our Garden, a photo-rich tour of someone's back yard led by a big boxer dog named Wynnie who lives "with Mom & Murf in a house full of cats in Cleveland" (sweet site, long download).

And watch out for the much-too-wide Internet search under "garden" that turns up every botanical garden and public garden with a Web site (which of course can be very good sources of information, as well), plus Madison Square Garden and any product, place or person that has anything to do with gardens.

Browser choiceLike most Web surfers, I needed to find some way to sort through this mountain of sites.

Yahoo! seemed to be the best search engine for organizing my search for gardens, with Lycos a close second. If you are the kind of person who likes to cruise different sites with only curiosity in mind, either these search vehicles will make you happy.

I like <u>'Yahoo!</u> because each of the categories listed -- including books, companies, flowers, leaf blower issues, organic ponds and more -- can take you to a new set of categories and a long list of Web sites.

For instance, I clicked on "Companies" as one of the <u>OYahoo!</u> gardening categories. Up came an easy-to-read list of categories of companies, including hydroponics, lighting, pest control, seeds, turf and more. Click on seeds and another 134 Web sites come up for you to chose from.

Going back to the main <u>OYahoo!</u> gardening page you will find its selection of nearly 100 sites, including An English Country Garden ("visit my country garden in the southwest of England,") Herbal Gardens (with information and discussion of herbs, flowers and vegetable gardening,) Outdoor Power Equipment Institute (presents America's virtual landscape "Cyberlawn USA."

Once you find sites you like, simply bookmark them and come back to them as often as you like.

Bookmark sites The very first site you should bookmark is http://www.garden.com because it is the best, all-purpose garden Web site where you can read articles, shop for garden plants and tools, keep abreast of garden events, talk with other gardeners, design your own garden and link to other sites.

Garden Escape is garden.com's online magazine, and it is very good. Editor Doug Jimerson is a horticulturist and was the longtime garden editor at Better Homes and Gardens. A recent feature article is "Create A Great Perennial Garden," written by Steve Frowine, a horticulturist from White Flower Farm.

There is a regional gardening section with tips on what to do in your area of the country, a community garden section with forums and chat rooms, and a garden doctor you can ask to solve your garden problems.

The site garden.com does try to sell you things, such as the perennials featured in a given article. Many people find this actually to be a service, for which you can push a button, give your credit-card number and find a box of plants or seeds in the mail before too long.

The competition The Virtual Garden (http://www.vg.com) is garden.com's main competitor, and it, too, has many of the same features, including columns and articles written by experts, such as Alan Lacy, former garden columnist for The ①New York Times.

You can consult its Garden Gurus with problems, e-mail in chat rooms, and get regional gardening advice. But this is the site of Time Life, and one of the greatest attributes is the online version of the "Time Life Complete Gardener Encyclopedia."

Here you can learn everything you ever wanted to know and more about Campanula, for instance, or hundreds of other bits of garden information. Oddly enough, if you want to buy anything while reading through vg.com, you are automatically linked to the shopping section of garden.com.

Garden companies The Web sites of garden companies and magazines are two other great places to find garden information and products. Almost every seed company you can name has a Web site or is in the process of building one.

The W. Atlee Burpee Co., http://www.burpee.com, is a good example, and one of the best. Here you can order a print catalog, go to its online catalog and place an order, check out some recipes for cooking with the fruits and vegetables you grow from Burpee seeds, and even get a question answered by a gardening expert.

Burpee's expert is Charlie Nardozzi Sr., horticulturist for the National Gardening Association in Vermont. E-mail Charlie a question through the Burpee site and he promises to e-mail an answer in 48 hours. Before you e-mail, check out the Q and A library, where the answer to your question may already be waiting for you.

Horticulture Magazine, http://www.hortmag, is a site that is just as colorful and well-designed as the magazine itself. Yes, they will be happy to sell you seeds and plants, sign you up for a subscription, or book you on one of their world garden tours, but they also display the entire contents of the current and past issues of the magazine, complete with illustrations and photography.

Organic Gardening (http://organicgardening.com, Fine Gardening (http://finegardneing.com,) Garden Gate (http://augusthome.com/gardeng) and The National Gardening Association magazine (http://www2.garden.org/nga) all have Web sites where you can cruise their contents without buying a subscription. The NGA site also has one other really neat idea. It offers online courses, such as "Botany for Gardeners," that cost only \$70.

Take to the links Links are another way to discover whole new realms of garden information. The NGA site, for instance, has a wonderful set of links. Since it is also a not-for-profit research and education group, its links take you to reams of university research on plant development, cell biology, urban tree tests and more esoteric stuff than you can imagine. Remember, the Internet was established so university researchers could share information, and gardeners can tap into that as well.

The site http://miningco.com is a large general purpose Web portal but if you go to its gardening section you will find a list of "In the Spotlight" links to feature articles from a variety of publications. I clicked on herbs, and then cilantro, and was treated to a biography of one of my favorite herbs culled from County Living Gardener magazine, part of the Home Arts Network of Hearst Publications.

Garden Planet (http://www.worldleader.com/garden/index.htm) is another linking site that bills itself as "Web resources for friendly gardeners." It has a good list of links to some of the lesser-known seed companies, such as Territorial Seeds, as well as a variety of different software possibilities. This site picks "Our Most Hoppening Places," finding garden sites of humorous, as well as informational, interest.

At http://gardennet.com you get not only links to other sites but brief reviews before you link to them. In particular it reviews seed catalogs, such as Thompson & Morgan, and magazines like The Wild Garden.

Also, http://gardenweb.com, the "Internet's garden community," focuses its search on forums, through which it claims to have the largest community of gardeners on the Internet. Forums are good because you can potentially post a question to the entire Internet community and almost anyone can answer. You in turn can answer anybody else's question or give a comment.

Signing up One thing you will find as you visit Web sites is that some will want you to join for free or sign their membership lists. If you do, you will receive some "spam," or e-mail messages, from them. You don't have to sign up, but I have found the spam to be unobtrusive, and in fact I like to be notified when new information is posted at these various sites.

The only other drawback to virtual gardening on the Web is a stiff back from sitting in a poorly designed chair for too long. And you might put on a few pounds if you snack while surfing. But soon the ground will thaw and you can get back to actual gardening shape when the weather warms in spring.

Laurence Sombke is a garden specialist with New York State Parks, author of "Beautiful Easy Herbs," and a regular guest on Northeast Public Radio/WAMC. Send questions by e-mail to sombke@albany.net or mail to County Route 16, P.O. Box 36, Hollowville, NY 12530.

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Digging around on the Web for gardening tips; [Final Edition]

DAVID ZGODZINSKI. The Gazette. Montreal, Que.: May 22, 1999. pg. K.2

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Abstract (Document Summary)

Garden Web bills itself as the "Internet Garden Community." There are articles with gardening hints. The site has a handy glossary of gardening terms. But the main feature here is the collection of forums for gardeners to gather and exchange pleasantries and advice. The forums are classified by important gardening subjects. For instance, there are seven separate forums about roses. There are forums for Canadian gardeners and forums in French and Spanish. The conversations cover everything to do with the garden. Dori in Oklahoma wrote and asked "What sort of liquid soap should I use for spraying roses? I use Dawn dish soap, and used a few drops of it while spraying for aphids on my rose cuttings. It did not do the leaves very good. What brands do you use? Thanks! My roses will appreciate it!"

Montreal gardening writer Stuart Robertson says that this sharing of information is one of the most important functions of the Net for gardeners. "There are a number of these gardening forums at different sites. You get questions and answers from amateurs and professionals, and the exchange of information can be very helpful."

There are a number of online stores selling gardening items. A Canadian site called eSeeds.com looks like a pleasant place to shop. Their catalogue has some useful looking items available and they're priced in Canadian dollars. eSeeds.com sells plants and seeds, gardening books and tools. It's a nice site to browse, and there are always holidays and birthdays for gardeners coming up, so eSeeds may be home to a quick and easy gift idea.

Full Text (1130 words)

Copyright Southam Publications Inc. May 22, 1999

I looked over from my laptop while sitting in the sun and saw my neighbour hoeing and raking and mowing and weeding in her back yard. She's a serious gardener and like many who love to toil with the soil, she seems to try Document View Page 2 of 4

and outdo herself every year.

"Do you know any good gardening Web sites?" I asked as I sat sunning and surfing.

"Not many," she said. "None that are good for Quebec, anyway." So, wanting to be helpful, I dug around, some, and here's what I found while she pruned and watered.

I discovered that gardening has a strong presence on the Web. There are hundreds of sites. You wouldn't thinks all those nerds and geeks have green thumbs, but apparently some do.

The i Can Garden site has a pretty design and plenty of great Canadian horticultural content. The site has columns by expert contributors from around the country. The subject matter varies from planting for birds, and some of the vegetation that attracts feathered friends, to the dangers of the Magnolia scale. The articles are practical and approach the subjects in depth.

i Can Garden also has some neat features like the Seed Saver page. This is a forum that lets gardeners trade seeds, from the inevitable remainders at the bottom of the envelope. There are pages with information and links to gardening courses, clubs, and volunteer organizations around the country.

The Virtual Gardener is a good all purpose common or garden variety E-zine, produced in Canada. There is a cover story. The current one is written by a woman planning to grow the world's largest pumpkin. There are feature stories, like interviews with famous gardeners who share their knowledge. The site's tips section has some interesting tidbits like the suggestion to use steel reinforcing rods for concrete for various functions around the garden. Once it rusts, it just blends right in, apparently.

A great number of gardening clubs and associations have sites, and they are fun to look at. The sites are practical for listing calendars of events and presenting news about the organization. What's more, sites can be great image albums to display the proud floral accomplishments of the members of the club.

The Quebec Rose Society has a site with a page of fine specimens of roses. There is also a page with a calendar of the events of the club's annual show late in June.

"To boldly grow where no one has groan before," is the mission statement of Garden Humour. This site is the work of one David Hobson, someone who may have spent a little too much time in the sun or rooting around his compost heap.

Hobson has fun with the site. He has a little animated worm on the home page, so he ran a contest asking users to Name That Worm. There is a page with their responses, the names and explanations. Other odd contests included the "What do I do with all that Zucchini challenge" The winners of these contests are awarded a copy of Hobson's book. Soiled Reputations.

The heart of the site is the Mad Gardener's Diary. This is a daily update about one aspect or another of the gardener's experience. There is some practical stuff and some interesting personal notes.

Hobson's no slouch when it comes to the green thumb. His garden won an award as the Best Garden from the Horticultural Society in Waterloo, his home town and an avid gardening community.

Garden Web bills itself as the "Internet Garden Community." There are articles with gardening hints. The site has a handy glossary of gardening terms. But the main feature here is the collection of forums for gardeners to gather and exchange pleasantries and advice. The forums are classified by important gardening subjects. For instance, there are seven separate forums about roses. There are forums for Canadian gardeners and forums in French and Spanish. The conversations cover everything to do with the garden. Dori in Oklahoma wrote and asked "What sort of liquid soap should I use for spraying roses? I use Dawn dish soap, and used a few drops of it while spraying for aphids on my rose cuttings. It did not do the leaves very good. What brands do you use? Thanks! My roses will appreciate it!"

Montreal gardening writer Stuart Robertson says that this sharing of information is one of the most important

functions of the Net for gardeners. "There are a number of these gardening forums at different sites. You get questions and answers from amateurs and professionals, and the exchange of information can be very helpful."

Gardening seems easy enough to people who don't do it. Just throw some seeds in the ground, water and Presto! Salad. But anyone who's tried knows that you sometimes have failures that are difficult to explain. Garden problem solving is an important business. "Just as there are no 'problem' dogs, there are no 'problem' gardens" writes Lindley Karstens of the No Problem Garden site.

The site has a basic premise. Certain pesky garden conditions are listed and simple remedies are presented. No Problem also has an effectively classified links page to other garden sites of note.

There are a number of gardening links sites and most gardeners like to have a large well-tended links page on their own site. Dr. Scott Russell who teaches at in the Department of Botany and Microbiology of the <u>Ouniversity of</u> Oklahoma has set up Scott's Botanical Links.

The site has a Link-of-the-day feature where Scott designates a site with a green theme as the chosen one. Some of these sites are fairly academic but some would appeal to a wide plant-loving public. There are some beautiful sites describing plant life that every gardener can admire. There are sites like Wildflower Nirvana, which classifies a number of North American wildflowers, with terrific images.

There are a number of online stores selling gardening items. A Canadian site called eSeeds.com looks like a pleasant place to shop. Their catalogue has some useful looking items available and they're priced in Canadian dollars. eSeeds.com sells plants and seeds, gardening books and tools. It's a nice site to browse, and there are always holidays and birthdays for gardeners coming up, so eSeeds may be home to a quick and easy gift idea.

Well, I could go on and list more sites, but my neighbour won't have time to look at them all. She's too busy planting and thinning and weeding and mulching, and doing all those things that keep gardeners busy and happy.

The Sites:

i Can Garden

www.icangarden.com

The Virtual Gardener

www.gardenmag.com

Quebec Rose Society

http://www3.sympatico.ca/mor-pol/

Garden Humour

http://home.golden.net/~dhobson/

Garden Web

www.gardenweb.com

The No Problem Garden

www.netusa1.net/~lindley/

Scott's Botanical Links

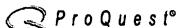
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Web Site Seeing // Fertile Ground for Gardeners; [LATE SPORTS FINAL Edition]

LYNN VOEDISCH. Chicago Sun - Times. Chicago, Ill.: Mar 21, 1996. pg. 37

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Abstract (Document Summary)

Gardening sites are in full flower on the Internet. One of the more informative ones is the Gardening Archive. This site from Sweden has files on herbs, ornamental plants, lawns and even bonsai trees. There's a list of frequently asked questions and links to other Web resources.

Another site full of tips, book lists and interesting Web links is GardenNet, which has book reviews and an Ask the Ardent Gardner feature. Gardeners also can take their questions to Earl, the official answer man at Ask Earl, the Yard Care Answer Guy.

Full Text (424 words)

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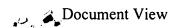
It might not look like spring yet, but since the vernal equinox arrived Wednesday, winter is history for Chicago.

It won't be long before gardeners can pull out their rakes, seeds, pots and hoses for another enjoyable season of getting good and dirty.

Before going into action, the computer-savvy gardener might want to dig up some tips on the World Wide Web.

Gardening sites are in full flower on the Internet. One of the more informative ones is the Gardening Archive. This site from Sweden has files on herbs, ornamental plants, lawns and even bonsai trees. There's a list of frequently asked questions and links to other Web resources.

The GardenWeb has a mystery plant contest, a link to the Brooklyn Botanic Garden, virtual trips to gardens in



Scotland and Sweden and a crossword puzzle. Another general gardening site is The Armchair Gardener, which includes images of flowers and woodlands and tips for planting.

Another site full of tips, book lists and interesting Web links is GardenNet, which has book reviews and an Ask the Ardent Gardner feature. Gardeners also can take their questions to Earl, the official answer man at Ask Earl, the Yard Care Answer Guy.

There are gardeners and then there are cultivators of the rose. People who raise rosebushes are a proud and temperamental lot, many of whom spend the entire year planning their summer blooms. Two good sites for rose fanciers are The Rose Garden, which includes some lovely photography, and The Home Page of the American Rose Society.

Growing herbs has many rewards, for backyard crops can be used both in the kitchen and as medicinal teas. Electric Newt (no, it has nothing to do with the Speaker of the House) offers tips on growing herbs.

Day lilies pop out only in midsummer and never seem to last long enough, but many gardeners plan their whole backyards around day lily displays. Check out the Day Lily Place for cultivation information.

The most difficult flower to grow might be the orchid. Hobbyists spend untold hours cultivating this beautiful tropical bloom. The Orchid House might help make it easier.

You can directly link to these sites through the Sun-Times at http://www.sun times.com by clicking on the "Connected" button. Internet addresses for all locations are also contained in a box on the facing page.

[Illustration]

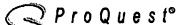
As gardening season nears - and it's almost here already - the World Wide Web is up and running with plenty of information and tips for the hobbyist or the more serious gardener.; Credit: RICHARD A. CHAPMAN

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GARDENING; [WEST FINAL, D Edition]

Lee Randhava. Chicago Tribune. Chicago, III.: Apr 11, 1999. pg. 5

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Column Name:

GARDENING

Section:

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Abstract (Document Summary)

It's a magalog: The Internet garden shop Garden Escape now publishes a printed version that is a hybrid of magazine and catalog. Every plant, tool and garden accessory mentioned in any of its stories-including the vases for these roses-is for sale via www.garden.com, but the articles are good even without the sales angle. The spring issue of Garden Escape costs \$5.95 at newsstands, bookstores and some home improvement stores.

Full Text (508 words)

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Clippings

BEST NEW PLACE TO BROWSE

It's a magalog: The Internet garden shop Garden Escape now publishes a printed version that is a hybrid of magazine and catalog. Every plant, tool and garden accessory mentioned in any of its stories-including the vases for these roses-is for sale via www.garden.com, but the articles are good even without the sales angle. The spring issue of Garden Escape costs \$5.95 at newsstands, bookstores and some home improvement stores.

DO IT NOW!

Hold that moisture: Mulch tree and shrub beds while the soil is moist. This also will discourage the germination of weed seeds. Make sure the mulch is no more than 3 inches deep. To keep from promoting insect attack and diseases, don't mound soil or mulch against tree trunks. Organic mulches always should be aged before they are applied; fresh mulch robs the soil of nutrients as it decomposes.

It's not too late: Even though many leaves are emerging early, it's not too late to apply a preventative fungicide
treatment to crab apples that were severely infested last year with apple scab. Follow directions on the fungicide's
abel, but apply at shorter intervals if the weather is continuously humid.

Q&A

I am concerned about a blue spruce that appears to have browned out in sections. The needles have lost their blue color and appear almost bronzed. Could this be winter damage?

--Skokie

Bronze foliage on blue conifers or evergreens could be winter damage but also could be symptoms of early spring spruce spider mites. Shake a branch over a white piece of paper and see if any tiny dots show up and start moving around. If you squish a dot on the paper and a green streak appears, it is a harmful mite. If a yellow/orange streak appears, however, the dot is one of the beneficial predatory mites that feed on the pests. Spraying is not recommended if many of the beneficial mites are present. Otherwise, controls for this problem include miticides, lightweight oils or insecticidal soaps. Oils can cause a loss of blue color on blue spruce, so choose another control.

What is an appropriate fertilizer to use on small trees and shrubs throughout my yard?

--Chicago

Fertilizer should be applied only after you have taken a soil test to determine what nutrients, if any, are lacking in your yard. The results of the test will indicate the levels of phosphorus, potassium and micronutrients present in the soil, and whether additional amounts are necessary. In general, fertilizer should not be applied routinely, but only when the plant demonstrates a need for it or the soil is lacking in certain important components. Most woody plants located in the middle of a fertilized lawn receive sufficient nitrogen via the lawn fertilizer.

Lee Randhava writes for the Chicago Botanic Garden. Send your concerns to Questions, Plant Information, Chicago Botanic Garden, 1000 Lake Cook Rd., Glencoe, IL 60022, or send e-mail to home&garden@tribune.com. Letters of general interest will be answered in this space.

[Illustration]

PHOTOS 2; Caption: PHOTO (color): (Rake.) PHOTO (color): (Flowers.)

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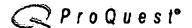
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DURANTA BUSH, DAY LILIES ARE 2 BEAUTIFUL FLORAL CHOICES; [VOLUSIA Edition]

Hank Veldman. Orlando Sentinel. Orlando, Fla.: Apr 17, 1998. pg. D.7

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Abstract (Document Summary)

Hank Veldman, a resident of Mount Dora, is a graduate of the @University of Florida master gardening program. Gardening questions should be addressed to Plant Life, 4580 S. U.S. Highway 17-92, Casselberry 32707. To ensure a response, please include a return address and telephone number.

A. If they are growing beautifully, keep doing what you're doing. The duranta comes in bush and tree (standard) form and has sky blue flowers from April to November followed by golden yellow fruit clusters. It can be shaped but doesn't demand a lot of care. The small evergreen tree usually is called golden dewdrop. Unpruned, it will reach 15 feet high. It should be fertilized lightly in February and October.

A. My first choice would be the day lily (remerocallis). They come in a wide variety of colors - mostly in yellow and orange tones, and they grow well in any soil. They need water in the absence of natural rain and except for a few aphids in early spring don't require any special care. Buy them when they are in bloom to select the color you like.

Full Text (800 words)

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Hank Veldman, a resident of Mount Dora, is a graduate of the <u>Ouniversity of Florida</u> master gardening program. Gardening questions should be addressed to Plant Life, 4580 S. U.S. Highway 17-92, Casselberry 32707. To ensure a response, please include a return address and telephone number.

Question: What can you tell me about a bush called duranta? I have three growing beautifully, but I know nothing about maintenance.

A. If they are growing beautifully, keep doing what you're doing. The duranta comes in bush and tree (standard) form and has sky blue flowers from April to November followed by golden yellow fruit clusters. It can be shaped but doesn't demand a lot of care. The small evergreen tree usually is called golden dewdrop. Unpruned, it will reach 15 feet high. It should be fertilized lightly in February and October.

Q. I'd like to grow a perennial in full sun. What would you recommend?

A. My first choice would be the day lily (remerocallis). They come in a wide variety of colors - mostly in yellow and orange tones, and they grow well in any soil. They need water in the absence of natural rain and except for a few aphids in early spring don't require any special care. Buy them when they are in bloom to select the color you like.

Q. Our citrus tree, about four years old, has borne a bumper crop of oranges each year, but quite a few fall from the tree before they are ripe. What should I do?

A. The tree is producing more than it can handle and sheds the excess fruit. This kind of premature fruit drop is normal and nothing to worry about.

Q. When and how should the crape myrtle be pruned?

A. If you must prune, the time would be January and February, before the tree leafs out. It is not necessary to prune. If yours is a tall variety, don't try to control its height by pruning. Prune to shape the tree into an attractive form.

Q. Is there anything I can do about the armadillos that tear up my flower beds every night? I've tried mothballs, cat litter, you name it.

A. I know of no effective way to get rid of armadillos. They burrow in your yard searching for the food they know is there - grubs and earthworms. The only way to get rid of the armadillos is to get rid of their food supply, and that is not practical.

Q. What are some flowering trees recommended for Central Florida that do not drop their leaves in winter?

A. Magnolia, golden dewdrop (duranta), bottle brush (callistemon rigidus), hibiscus (borderline hardy) and oleander.

Q. Is it true that plants "clean the air" in a room?

A. Yes, plants absorb carbon dioxide and give off oxygen. A <u>@NASA</u> test showed that plants also remove carbon monoxide, formaldehyde and trichoroethylene from the air. Some of the most common house plants are the most active "air cleaners": spider plant, corn plant, ficus tree, philodendron and spathiphyllum.

Q. My king sago has little suckers growing around the base. Can they be removed? The sago also has yellowish leaves.

A. You can remove the suckers without harm and it will greatly enhance the appearance of this small, palmlike tree. The yellowish leaves most likely come from a magnesium deficiency. Florida soil is often deficient in magnesium and manganese. It shows up as chlorosis, or yellowing of leaves. You can tell if a manganese deficiency is present because new leaves appear frizzled. Both can be cured and prevented with a twice-a-year application of a cupful of each. The products are sold as manganese sulfate and magnesium sulfate (Epsom salt).

Q. How should I install English ivy as a ground cover?

A. Select an area with partial or high shade, such as under an oak tree. Thoroughly spade the area, incorporating large amounts of peat moss and cow manure, along with a complete fertilizer such as 6-6-6 (one pound per 100 square feet). Space the ivy plants about 12 inches apart and continue to water them well. When new leaves appear, reduce watering. Ivy needs a thick mulch, about 4 inches deep, preferably of oak leaves. In about a year, the ivy will be a lush, continuous green carpet, maintenance-free except for trimming the borders occasionally.

Q. I am looking for a book that describes plants for dry places. You wrote about it but I lost it.

A. The book is The Right Plants for Dry Places by the Suncoast Native Plant Society published by Great Outdoors Publishing Co. in St. Petersburg. It is available at most bookstores for \$12.95.

[Illustration]

PHOTO: Perennial star. Day lilies bloom in full sun in a variety of colors and are easy to care for. HANK VELDMAN. SEQN: 81060552

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Holiday lights tour benefits gardening program

<u>JACK KERRIGAN</u>, <u>OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION SERVICE</u>. <u>The Plain Dealer</u>. Cleveland, Ohio: <u>Nov 9</u>, <u>1991</u>. pg. NOPGCIT

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Abstract (Document Summary)

I have seen many conifers with dead branches. Although blue spruce is more drought-tolerant than many of the spruce species, the length of this summer's drought caused damage. Blue spruce are native to the higher elevations in the Rocky Mountains. They are generally found along stream banks and other moist sites. Deep, rich, gravelly soils are ideal for their growth. From your address, I doubt that you have these **soil** conditions. Heavy clay soils are acceptable for spruce, but not ideal. When combined with drought conditions, the result is poor vigor.

A: Strawberry plantings should be mulched for winter protection. Mulching protects them from severe cold and from heaving due to freezing and thawing of the **soil**. Use a clean, seed-free mulch of wheat or rye straw, since **tree** leaves and oat straw tend to pack and smother the strawberry plants. Coarser materials provide little protection, but may be placed over the straw to keep it in place. The mulch should be 3 to 4 vinches deep. Apply the mulch after several sharp freezes that send the temperature into the lower 20s.

A: Select a container with drainage holes. Cover the holes with pieces of broken clay pots, screening, or sponges. Place enough potting soil in the bottom of the pot so the top of the bulbs will come up to a half inch from the rim of the pot. The potting soil should be a light, well-draining mix. Place bulbs on the soil about an inch apart, using as many bulbs as necessary to fill the pot. Add more soil until just the tips of the bulbs are exposed. Water the soil and allow it to drain thoroughly. Add more soil if necessary. Label the pot with the name of the cultivar.

Full Text (1412 words)

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ANNOUNCEMENT: Join the fun on a "Holiday Lights Tour." Displays to be visited include Public Square, General Electric Co.'s Nela Park, the Garden Center of Greater Cleveland and the Rockefeller Park Greenhouse. The \$30 cost of the tour includes motor coach, buffet dinner at the Hofbrau House, all admission charges and bus driver's gratuity. The tour benefits the Extension Service's urban community gardening program, Seed-to-Shelf. For information, call Dennis Rinehart at 631-1890.

Q: A mass of Colorado blue spruce at the edge of our property screens a horrible view. Many of the spruces have branches that are dying. Will they come back in the spring?

A: If a branch of a spruce drops all of its needles or the needles turn brown and die, it is unlikely that the branch will come back in the spring. Check the bud at the end of each branch. A green, supple bud indicates that spring may bring new growth. If the bud is dried out, the branch is dead.

I have seen many conifers with dead branches. Although blue spruce is more drought-tolerant than many of the spruce species, the length of this summer's drought caused damage. Blue spruce are native to the higher elevations in the Rocky Mountains. They are generally found along stream banks and other moist sites. Deep, rich, gravelly soils are ideal for their growth. From your address, I doubt that you have these soil conditions. Heavy clay soils are acceptable for spruce, but not ideal. When combined with drought conditions, the result is poor vigor.

The dieback may be the direct result of environmental conditions or of a secondary infection by a disease like Cytospora. If the trees do die, try to view the situation as an opportunity to replace this mass planting of one species with a mixture of plants that are more appropriate for the soil and climate. With a mix, it is less likely that an entire planting will die from a disease, insect infestation or weather condition.

Q: What should I use to mulch my strawberry patch? And when should I apply the mulch?

A: Strawberry plantings should be mulched for winter protection. Mulching protects them from severe cold and from heaving due to freezing and thawing of the soil. Use a clean, seed-free mulch of wheat or rye straw, since tree leaves and oat straw tend to pack and smother the strawberry plants. Coarser materials provide little protection, but may be placed over the straw to keep it in place. The mulch should be 3 to 4 vinches deep. Apply the mulch after several sharp freezes that send the temperature into the lower 20s.

Q: I have some daffodil and tulip bulbs left over. Can I force them indoors?

A: Select a container with drainage holes. Cover the holes with pieces of broken clay pots, screening, or sponges. Place enough potting soil in the bottom of the pot so the top of the bulbs will come up to a half inch from the rim of the pot. The potting soil should be a light, well-draining mix. Place bulbs on the soil about an inch apart, using as many bulbs as necessary to fill the pot. Add more soil until just the tips of the bulbs are exposed. Water the soil and allow it to drain thoroughly. Add more soil if necessary. Label the pot with the name of the cultivar.

Store the planted pot in a cool location (between 35 and 48 degrees Fahrenheit) for 10 to 12 weeks. After the chilling period, move the pot to a cool (55 to 65 degrees), sunny room. Growth will begin and flowers will bloom in about a month. For complete instructions on forcing bulbs, send a self-addressed, stamped, business-size envelope to Forcing Bulbs, Ohio State University Extension Service, 3200 W. 65th St., Cleveland, O. 44102. This will help bring a bit of spring into your home during the cold winter.

Q: We have a very small yard, and our landscaping efforts have resulted in a mismatched collection of nice plants. Nothing seems to fit together. How can we correct this?

A: People who love plants often have this problem, and a small yard intensifies it. I suggest you measure your property and draw it to scale on paper. Include all permanent features. Then determine how you want to use each section of the property (play area, flower gardens, landscaped areas, vegetable gardens, screens, entertainment/dining, composting, etc.) Place these areas logically on your drawing. Then develop a focal point such as an ornamental tree, a bird bath, a gazebo, a colorful planting area or whatever. Place plantings on the plan so they look neat and attractive. Use plants that complement or contrast in foliage color and texture.

With small yards, it is best to keep to a basic color scheme. Softer colors work better for small areas. One couple in Lakewood matched the basic color scheme of the flowers with the trim on their house and developed an award-winning landscape.

A pitfall to avoid is over-planting. Plan for the mature size of plants and fill in the voids with annuals until the permanent plants mature. Clean, crisp edges will improve the look. Finally, keep the layout simple.

Q: This summer was a real trial for me. We have a well and must soften our water, which gives our water a high

salt content. Should I avoid using this water for gardens and houseplants? If so, where do I get water for plants?

A: This is a dilemma for many people. You should not use this water on potted plants because of the possible salt buildup, and I would not recommend salt-softened water for the garden either. Alternative sources are ponds and cisterns. Ponds can be focal points in the landscape. You should remember that a pond will require maintenance and can increase your insurance rates. Cisterns are rare these days, but they can be a good source of water for gardens and plants. The water from your house's gutters can be diverted into a cistern. Water from a dehumidifier also can be used on houseplants.

Q: I have a sunroom that doubles as a conservatory during the cold months. The plants are tropicals that do beautifully during the summer and then slowly deteriorate during the winter. What can I do to improve conditions for winter growth?

A: It is not necessarily bad that the tropicals just exist during the winter. Cooler conditions provide these plants with a resting period. Cool temperatures reduce the insect pressure by slowing down insects' rate of growth and reproduction.

However, if the plants are actually deteriorating during their winter sojourn, then you must consider improving conditions in the room. Keep the temperature above 50 degrees Fahrenheit. You may need to provide supplemental lighting. "Grow" lights will improve conditions.

Group plants together to increase the relative humidity around them. Trays and saucers of moist pebbles also help with humidity, as will a humidifier. Avoid drafts, whether warm or cool. Some plants, like tropical hibiscus, can be drastically pruned when brought into the house. They will gradually leaf out during the winter. Slowly acclimating the plants from outdoor summer conditions to indoor conditions also will reduce stress on the plants.

Q: I have been reading many articles on xeriscaping. Is this something gardeners in the Great Lakes region need to be concerned about?

A: It is certainly not a critical issue for most people in this area. We have the world's largest supply of fresh water nearby, and our water costs are relatively low. However, no natural resource should be wasted just because it is in good supply. Droughts bring this issue home every few years.

Use plants that are appropriate for the soil and climatic conditions. Group plants with similar water needs. Your landscape's focal point could be an area that requires additional watering. Zones of lesser water needs can be established so some areas will require minimal or no watering at all, even during droughts. Drip irrigation systems are now available to the home gardener.

These systems offer reduced water usage and targeted application. You don't have to worry about wet foliage and the resulting disease possibilities. Soaker hoses are an alternative solution to placing water where it is most needed and reducing waste.

Written requests are welcomed by Jack Kerrigan at Cuyahoga County Cooperative Extension Service, 3200 W. 65th St., Cleveland 44102. The Extension Service operates on state, county and federal funds.

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FIGS EASY TO GROW, HAVE FEW INSECT PESTS; [FINAL / ALL Edition]

ASSOCIATED PRESS. The Plain Dealer. Cleveland, Ohio: Jul 3, 1998. pg. 2.E

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Abstract (Document Summary)

When compared with other tree fruits, including peaches and apples, figs suffer from relatively few insect pests or diseases. If provided with warm, dry climates, moderate winters and not-too-rich soil, they are among the easiest fruits to grow in the home orchard. Birds are the major pest for figs. To protect your harvest, try to cover each tree with netting as fruits begin to mature.

Most fig varieties are hardy in USDA Zones 8 to 10 and will tolerate temperatures as low as about 15 degrees Fahrenheit. Fig trees require a cool dormant period at 40 degrees to 50 degrees. You can grow figs outdoors in cool regions (Zones 5 to 7) if you select early maturing varieties such as 'Alma,' 'Celeste,' 'Brunswick,' 'Marseilles' or 'English Brown Turkey.' Plant them in a warm area sheltered from the winds and provide winter protection by wrapping and insulating. {A few people in Greater Cleveland have grown these varieties of figs in protected areas.}

Full Text (540 words)

(Copyright (c) The Plain Dealer 1998)

One of the oldest fruits known to civilization, the fig is said to have roots in Southwest Asia and the Eastern Mediterranean, wrote Lucy Wing in an article in the July issue of Country Living.

Fresh ripe figs can be pale yellow, almost black, purple, green or burgundy on the outside with amber, red or translucent pink flesh containing tiny edible seeds. For fresh eating, there is little difference in flavor among varieties.

Figs must ripen on the tree. When ripe, they hang downward and the skin is extremely delicate. While commercial crops grown for drying may be mechanically harvested, picking figs for the fresh-fruit market requires a gentle hand - one reason why they are expensive.

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diseases. If provided with warm, dry climates, moderate winters and not-too-rich soil, they are among the easiest fruits to grow in the home orchard. Birds are the major pest for figs. To protect your harvest, try to cover each tree with netting as fruits begin to mature.

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Plant fig trees in average well-draining soil, at least 10 feet apart, away from citrus plants and ornamentals. Figs do not need the extra nitrogen and water other trees require. Most fig varieties are self-pollinating.

Dig a hole that is wider than it is deep. Fig trees have flat, spreading root systems, not long taproots. Application of high potash liquid fertilizer every 10 days or so during the summer and up to just before fruit ripening is beneficial. High amounts of nitrogen will provide lush growth at the expense of fruit.

Fig trees usually bear fruit the year after planting. When figs are soft to the touch and droop slightly on their stems, they are ready to harvest.

A ripe fig feels plump, yields easily to light pressure and is moist inside. If hard, a fig's flesh will taste dry instead of syrupy and sweet.

Ripe figs are perishable and must be stored with care. Arrange them slightly apart on a tray lined with paper towels and then refrigerate them uncovered for up to five days. To eat them, trim off the hard part of the stem end. Some people pull off the thin skin, others don't. Sweet figs draped in thinly sliced prosciutto make a sophisticated first course. They are also delicious roasted.

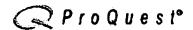
Figs are seasonal, appearing abundantly in markets from July through November, depending on where you live. Most fig trees bear two crops, the first on the previous season's growth and the second on current wood. While summer figs are usually larger individually, fall brings a more bountiful harvest.

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The Atlanta Journal-Constitution

Water Wise Landscaping the natural way saves money and maintenance

<u>Bob Townsend FOR THE JOURNAL-CONSTITUTION</u>. The Atlanta Journal the Atlanta Constitution (pre-1997 Fulltext). Atlanta, Ga.: Jun 29, 1996. pg. G.01

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<u>1996</u>. pg. G.01

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Abstract (Document Summary)

The seven principles of xeriscaping: Planning and design: Identify site problems, divide landscape into water-use zones, incorporate shade. Soil analysis: Check for structure, water-holding capacity, drainage. Appropriate plant selection: Understand specific plant culture, drought tolerance and sun or shade requirements. Practical turf areas: Use for a specific function or visual impact, select drought-resistant turf grass adapted to site. Efficient irrigation: Use soaker hoses and water between 9 p.m. and 9 a.m. to prevent runoff or evaporation. Mulches: A layer of pine straw or pine bark mini-nuggets around trees and shrubs will save water in existing landscapes. Appropriate maintenance: Mow turf areas to recommended height, use slow- release fertilizers, thin shrubs instead of shearing them. Source: @University of Georgia publication "Xeriscape," available from any county cooperative extension service office. The extension service provides free xeriscaping consultations in most metro counties. Chart: DROUGHT-TOLERANT PLANTS FOR THE SOUTHEAST Summer, when all the problems heat can create become obvious, may be the best time to plan a xeriscape. But fall is the best time to plant, says landscape architect [Bill Brigham]. Most ornamentals need at least a year to become established and drought tolerant. "All initial installations, no matter what plant you use, or where you put it, will require supplemental watering," says Todd Tibbetts of Post Landscape. Here are some recommendations of drought-tolerant plants from Brigham and the "Post Preferred Plant List." Annuals Narrowleaf zinnia (Zinnia linearis) Globe amaranth (Gomphrena globosa) Small trees or shrubs Lantana (Lantana camara) Small trees or shrubs Chaste tree (Vitex agnus-castus) Fringe tree (Chionanthus virginicus) Smoke tree (Cotinus coggygria) Chinese flame tree (Koelreuteria bipinnata) Wax myrtle (Myrica cerifera) Inkberry (llex glabra) Dwarf yaupon holly (llex vomitoria `Nana') Perennials Black-eyed Susan (Rudbeckia fulgida 'Goldstrum') Russian sage (Perovskia artriplicifolia) Threadleaf coreopsis (C. verticillata) Gaura (G. linheimeri) Purple coneflower (Echinacea purpurea) Verbena (V. hybrida) Chart: Water- use zones The color-coded zones on the landscape plan indicate how plant selection can determine watering needs.

Full Text (1071 words)

(Copyright 1996 The Atlanta Journal-Constitution)

All around metro Atlanta, where per capita water consumption continues to rise and fast-growing counties such as Forsyth, Paulding and Rockdale struggle to keep up with demand, outdoor watering bans have become the bane of many a homeowner's summer landscaping project.

But some landscape architects and horticulturists say homeowners wouldn't need to worry so much about watering restrictions if they adopted a simple, common-sense approach to landscaping that features more shade trees and drought-tolerant plants and judicious use of turf grass.

Xeriscape (coined from "xeric," which denotes plants that can tolerate dry conditions) is the term most often used to describe the idea that home landscapes should mimic nature. Its main precept: Put the right plant in the right place and you will reduce maintenance and save water and money.

Fox McCarthy, conservation coordinator with the Cobb-Marietta Water Authority, says that xeriscaping is often misunderstood. "It's not zero- scape," he says. "It doesn't mean cacti in gravel beds, like in the Southwest. In our region, it can be as lush as any traditional landscape, but still conserve water."

<u>Post Properties</u>, a developer and manager of apartment communities throughout the Southeast, has long been recognized as a leader in designing and promoting water-saving landscapes. Post installs lavish landscapes at its apartments. The colorful, irrigated plants are concentrated in the most visible areas, such as entrances and medians. Other areas include trees and shrubs that require less water.

For example, the Post-designed city park on the square in Marietta is actually a model xeriscape.

"You don't have to sacrifice quality or color or curb appeal for a water-efficient landscape," says Chris Tibbitts, senior vice president of Post Landscape. "We simply group plants according to their needs and the conditions on the site. And we only irrigate about 10 percent of the area around our properties. Most homeowners can easily do the same."

"It's just sound horticultural practice," says Bill Brigham, a landscape architect who specializes in xeriscaping. "It's a cookbook method that's very easy once you understand the basic principles."

When Hylton and Patsy Dupree hired Brigham to design a landscape for their rural-suburban west Cobb County residence, they told him they wanted it to be low-maintenance but retain the character of a traditional landscape. Brigham managed to incorporate all seven standard xeriscape principles (see sidebar) into a water-efficient plan that has classic curb appeal.

"It's not a huge lawn," Patsy Dupree says. "But we're more natural people. No offense to golfers, but we didn't want it to look like a golf course, because that's man-made. We wanted it to look natural and inviting, and I think it does."

The key to any xeriscape plan, say experts, is dividing the landscape into three water-use zones: high (regular watering), moderate (occasional watering) and low (natural rainfall). The goal is to concentrate high-water-use zones, such as turf grass, in small, highly visible areas, such as around the front door, and create shade by leaving existing trees where possible.

At the Dupree residence, the undulating strip of shade-tolerant zoysia grass that forms the narrow yard leading to the front door and the beds of colorful annuals that frame it are considered high-water-use zones, as is the perennial garden around the circular patio in the back yard.

Moderate-water-use zones include plantings of hybrid azalea, hosta and Japanese maple, as well as a full-sun cutting garden, also in the back yard. Even there, though, Patsy Dupree chose drought-tolerant, old-fashioned and native perennials including yarrow, baptisia, gaura and 'Nearly Wild' rose.

Low-water-use zones include naturalized areas of large shade trees, yaupon hollies and mahonias, pine islands planted with ground covers such as cotoneaster, a wildflower meadow and an expanse of natural pasture.

"The basic design is low-maintenance," Patsy Dupree says. "But Bill left a few areas for me to play in. That's where I plant my flowers and herbs. The other real key is, it's right where we live, next to the kitchen. I can walk out in the morning with my coffee and do a little gardening."

[Illustration]

The seven principles of xeriscaping: Planning and design: Identify site problems, divide landscape into water-use zones, incorporate shade. Soil analysis: Check for structure, water-holding capacity, drainage. Appropriate plant selection: Understand specific plant culture, drought tolerance and sun or shade requirements. Practical turf areas: Use for a specific function or visual impact, select drought-resistant turf grass adapted to site. Efficient irrigation: Use soaker hoses and water between 9 p.m. and 9 a.m. to prevent runoff or evaporation. Mulches: A layer of pine straw or pine bark mini-nuggets around trees and shrubs will save water in existing landscapes. Appropriate maintenance: Mow turf areas to recommended height, use slow- release fertilizers, thin shrubs instead of shearing them. Source: Duniversity of Georgia publication "Xeriscape," available from any county cooperative extension service office. The extension service provides free xeriscaping consultations in most metro counties. Chart: DROUGHT-TOLERANT PLANTS FOR THE SOUTHEAST Summer, when all the problems heat can create become obvious, may be the best time to plan a xeriscape. But fall is the best time to plant, says landscape architect Bill Brigham. Most ornamentals need at least a year to become established and drought tolerant. "All initial installations, no matter what plant you use, or where you put it, will require supplemental watering," says Todd Tibbetts of Post Landscape. Here are some recommendations of drought-tolerant plants from Brigham and the "Post Preferred Plant List." Annuals Narrowleaf zinnia (Zinnia linearis) Globe amaranth (Gomphrena globosa) Small trees or shrubs Lantana (Lantana camara) Small trees or shrubs Chaste tree (Vitex agnus-castus) Fringe tree (Chionanthus virginicus) Smoke tree (Cotinus coggygria) Chinese flame tree (Koelreuteria bipinnata) Wax myrtle (Myrica cerifera) Inkberry (Ilex glabra) Dwarf yaupon holly (Ilex vomitoria 'Nana') Perennials Black-eyed Susan (Rudbeckia fulgida 'Goldstrum') Russian sage (Perovskia artriplicifolia) Threadleaf coreopsis (C. verticillata) Gaura (G. linheimeri) Purple coneflower (Echinacea purpurea) Verbena (V. hybrida) Chart: Water- use zones The color-coded zones on the landscape plan (left) indicate how plant selection can determine watering needs. For example: Low-watering zone: Features trees, conifers, flowering shrubs and mulch. Medium-watering zone: Includes a strip of turf but also emphasizes use of conifers, trees and shrubs, flowering shrubs and hedges. High-watering zone: Features more turf and concentrated beds of annuals. Map: Water-use zones Map shows high water, medium water, and low water zones for turf and mulch areas (see microfilm for details) Source: Gregg A. Coyle, UGA professor of landscape architecture / Mark Giles / Staff

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FLOWERING CHERRY TREES GROW EASILY IN THE NORTHWEST; [ZONE Edition]

ED HUME. Seattle Times. Seattle, Wash.: Mar 20, 1985, pg. H.7

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Abstract (Document Summary)

In springtime, one of the most beautiful blossoming trees is the flowering cherry. The Japanese flowering cherries come in a wide range of varieties with varying growth habits and flower colors. Fortunately, the Pacific Northwest is one of the finest areas in which to grow them.

Flowering cherry trees bloom in shades of pink, rose, white and even chartreuse. Some varieties have an upright habit of growth, while others are spreading, vase-shaped, pyramidal or weeping.

Select a spot in the landscape where the trees will receive bright sunshine most of the day. Be sure the soil is well drained. Some flowering cherry trees get to be quite large, so select a spot where it will have enough room to grow.

Full Text (805 words)

Copyright Seattle Times Mar 20, 1985

In springtime, one of the most beautiful blossoming trees is the flowering cherry. The Japanese flowering cherries come in a wide range of varieties with varying growth habits and flower colors. Fortunately, the Pacific Northwest is one of the finest areas in which to grow them.

Flowering cherry trees bloom in shades of pink, rose, white and even chartreuse. Some varieties have an upright habit of growth, while others are spreading, vase-shaped, pyramidal or weeping.

Flowering cherries grow easily in the Pacific Northwest if a few simple planting procedures are followed.

Select a spot in the landscape where the trees will receive bright sunshine most of the day. Be sure the soil is well drained. Some flowering cherry trees get to be quite large, so select a spot where it will have enough room to grow.

Local nurseries and garden outlets have their finest selection of flowering cherry trees at this time of the year. They are just coming out of their winter dormant cycle and they can safely be transplanted now and in the next few weeks to come.

The key to success in growing any tree is to prepare the soil properly. Take time to prepare a planting hole at least twice as large in width and twice as deep in depth as the actual spread of the roots of the tree you're planting. Generally, this will result in a planting hole about four feet wide and two feet deep.

Mix ample amounts of compost humus into the soil, such as peat moss, processed manure, compost, if available, or leaf mulch from a wooded area. Also add a non-burning transplanting fertilizer, mixing these additives thoroughly with your existing soil. Set the tree right at ground level the same depth as it was previously planted. The correct planting depth is often indicated by a soil mark on the stem of the tree. Firm the soil in around the roots of the tree and water it thoroughly.

If the tree tends to be top heavy and unsteady in its present location, be certain to stake it to provide protection from wind-whipping during strong wind storms.

Here are a few of the most popular varieties of flowering cherries.

The variety you see in bloom now is called the Autumn flowering cherry. The first of the blossoms started earlier this winter and the plant continues to flower during warm spells throughout the winter. Later this month or early next month, they will come into full bloom. It's an exceptionally nice variety of flowering cherry because of its unusual flowering time. It grows to about 25 feet tall.

Whitcombi flowering cherry was developed in Edmonds years ago. The bright, deep pink, single flowers provide a nice show in the spring. It grows only about 20 to 25 feet in height and is noted for its interesting, irregular growth habit.

Mt. Fuji, the white flowering cherry, is probably the most popular of all varieties. It has a very attractive spreading growth habit and interesting, irregular branching pattern. The flowers are semi-double, white and hang in clusters from the branches.

One of the most unusual flowering cherries is the variety Ukon. The chartreuse yellow flowers are semi-double and have an eventual growing height of about 25 to 30 feet; a rather fast-growing tree with an interesting open branching pattern.

The Kwanzan flowering cherry is another popular home garden variety. It has a vase shape habit of growth with colorful, deep pink double blossoms. New foliage is bronze in color, turning green with maturity.

There are several varieties of upright columnar type of flowering cherry trees. Possibly the most popular is the variety called Amanogawa. It has semi-double, light pink fragrant flowers. The tree usually spreads only about four to six feet in width but may grow up to 20 feet high. It is often used for screening because of its narrow growth habit.

The weeping varieties are one of the most popular of all spring flowering cherry trees. They have a graceful weeping habit of growth. The varieties vary with single or double pink flowers. The single flowering variety usually has more blossoms.

These are only a few of the many popular varieties of the flowering cherry trees. If you want to see flowering cherries in full bloom in springtime to decide which varieties you like the best, you can visit the University of Washington Arboretum. The collection at the arboretum is one of the most outstanding flowering cherry collections anywhere in North America. You will also be able to find out how well these trees grow in the Pacific Northwest.

Ed Hume cannot respond to personal inquiries by mail, but will answer questions of general interest in his column



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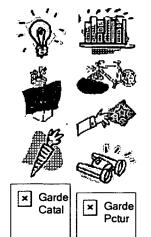
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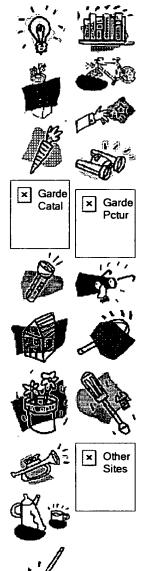


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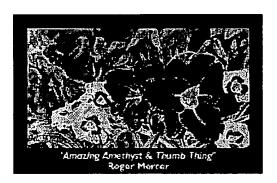
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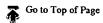


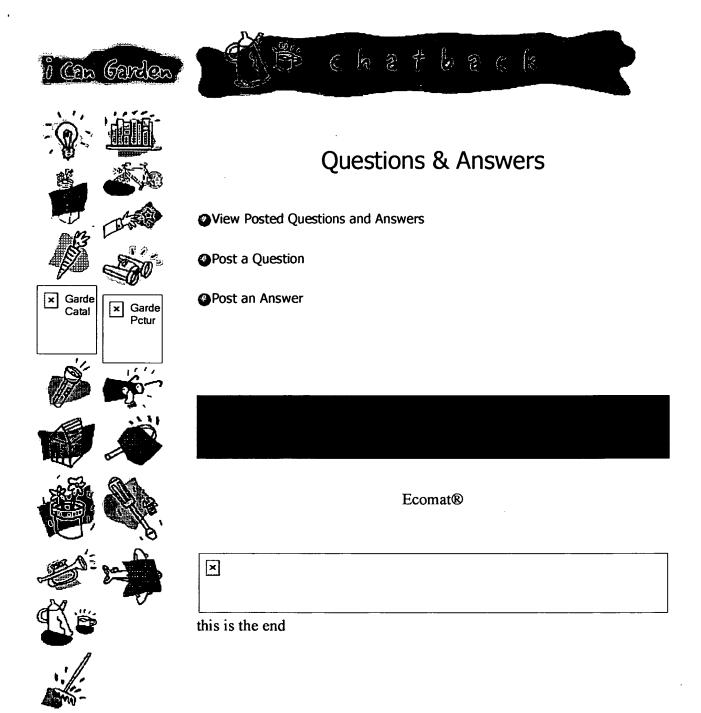
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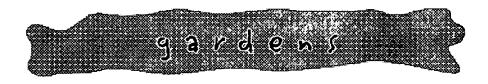


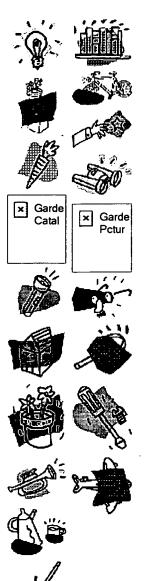
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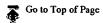
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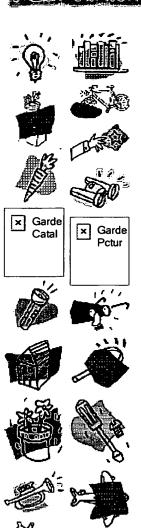
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The automated telephone information system @ 268-4678 is still running 24 hrs a day, 365 days a year. The horticulturist is available from May through September, Monday thru Thursday, 8:00 AM - 12:00 AM & 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM. There are over 75 topics based on commonly asked questions.

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- 2. Fax = 1-403-221-4698
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http://web.archive.org/web/19990128092600/http://www.gov.calgary.a The City of Calgary Website has copies of most of the scripts on the telephone system, with an Adobe reader to download since they are PDF files (FTP is also available)

One new item on the phone system the seasonal tips message. Available by pressing 73 after having dialled 268-4678, followed by 1 to activate the system.

Saskatchewan

Saskatchewan's Garden Line at (306)966-5865

Manitoba

Brandon University

Currently we provide service to all of the area outside Winnipeg and beyond. People outside Brandon are asked to use their Ag Office if possible or to leave their address so that written response may be sent to them. Some choose to reverse the charges for faster service. We diagnose pathological specimens, insect identification and control, plant identification, weed control, environmental and cultural advise on trees, shrubs, perennials, annuals, vegetables, fruits, house plants etc. etc.

There has also been in the past a Hort-line at the University of Manitoba which has dealt with problems within the city of Winnipeg. The Provincial pathologist now charges for diagnosis and deals with some in the horticultural industry others come to us for free advise.

Backing up the student we have Dr.Ron Jackson who is a plant pathologist/ mycologist; Professor Al Rogosin plant ecologist/taxonomist; Dr.Robin Marles pharmacognocist/ecologist/taxonomist; Bill Galloway -entomologist. Several of us also have background in horticulture. My training is in Microbiology;

Plant Physiology/Plant Biochemistry.

Our student this year is Vicki East who is a 3rd year student in Botany/Biology.

A service has also been provided in the past by the Department of Horticulture, UNiversity of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon. Our telephone number is (204)-727-9783.

Ontario

Master Gardeners Hot Line In Ontario

Advice is FREE

Algoma	705-946-4404
Brantford	519-752-9089
Essex/Windsor	519-776-6328
Kitchener	519-745-4669
Lindsay	705-324-0569
London	519-473-9727
Mississauga	905-279-0333
Niagara	905-646-4034
North Bay	705-495-0920
Oshawa	905-668-9920
Ottawa/Carleton	613-828-5264
Peterborough	705-741-4905
Sarnia/Lambton	519-882-0622

Sudbury 705-522-9646 Toronto 416-397-1345

this is the end

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We welcome your comments....For additional information or to supply feedback contact webmaster at ICanGarden.com

